

REMARKS

The Office Action of August 25, 206, has been carefully considered.

The prior art rejections of the claims under 35 USC 103(a) over Briggs et al in view of Naudad or Briggs et al in view of Naudad, Ansmann et al and Milius, have been maintained.

The previously filed declaration was found not to be commensurate with the scope of the claims, which permitted up to 50% by weight oil in the emulsion, whereas the declaration examples contained 10-15% oil in the emulsion.

Claims 19 and 29 have now been amended to recite an oil range of 2-20% by weight, in accordance with the disclosure at page 1, lines 24-26 of the specification. Claim 20 has been canceled; claim 21 has been amended to depend from claim 19.

Moreover, a new declaration is submitted herewith, describing emulsions prepared according to the invention containing 4%, 12%, and 18% by weight of oil. In each of the examples, a stable emulsion is formed in which the continuous phase is oil, despite the fact that the amount of oil present is relatively small, as small as 4% by weight.

The conclusion of this declaration is that when an emulsion using the claimed components is prepared, a water-in-oil emulsion stable for at least one month is obtained.

The chosen group of polymers clearly provides "unexpected results," going beyond the simple thickening role which could have been expected of them from the prior art. Specifically, the claimed polymers stabilize particular types of emulsions in which the oil phase remains the external, continuous phase (within which aqueous droplets are dispersed) despite constituting less than 20% (even as little as 4%) of the overall emulsion.

Applicants submit that based on this declaration, unexpected results have been shown commensurate in scope with the claims.

Having clearly shown an unexpected results from the use of the claimed polymers, Applicants submit that the invention as claimed is clearly patentable over the references of record and withdrawal of the rejections of record is requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early allowance of the application with amended claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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